

Massachusetts
Department of Correction

Quarterly Report on the Status of Prison Overcrowding, Third Quarter of 1996

Submitted in Compliance with Chapter 799
Section 21 of the Acts of 1985

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Commissioner

November 1996

Approved by: State Purchasing Agent
Publication no.: 14,602-09-45-10-10-86

1996 Third Quarter Report

Section Twenty-one of Chapter 799 of the Acts of 1985 directs the Commissioner of Correction to report quarterly on the status of overcrowding in the state and county facilities. This statute calls for the following information:

Such report shall include, by facility, the average daily census for the period of the report and the actual census on the second and last days of the report period. Said report shall also contain such information for the previous twelve months and a comparison to the rated capacity of such facility.

This report presents the required statistics for the third quarter of 1996.

This report was prepared by Ramon V. Raagas of Research & Planning and is based on daily count sheets prepared by the Classification Division

1996 Third Quarter Report

Contents

Technical Notes	1
Abbreviations	2
Table 1. Population in Department of Correction Facilities, July 1, 1996 to September 30, 1996	3
Table 2. Population in Department of Correction Facilities, July 1, 1995 to June 28, 1996	4
Table 3. Population in County Correctional Facilities, July 1, 1996 to September 30, 1996	5
Table 4. Population in County Correctional Facilities, July 1, 1995 to June 28, 1996	5
Figure 1. DOC Sentenced Population, Third Quarter of 1995 and 1996	6
Figure 2. HOC Population, Third Quarter of 1995 and 1996	6
Table 5. Third Quarter Court Commitments to DOC by Gender, 1995 and 1996	7
Figure 3. Third Quarter Court Commitments to DOC by Gender, 1995 and 1996	7

Technical Notes

- ❖ The official capacity or custody level designation for each facility can change for a number of reasons, e.g. expansion of facility beds, decrease of facility beds due to fire, or changes in contracts with vendors. In all tables the capacity and custody level reflects the status at the end of the reporting period. The design capacity is reported for correctional facilities in Tables 1, 2, 3, and 4.
- ❖ On January 31, 1995, the design capacity for the Departmental Segregation Units (DSU) at MCI-Cedar Junction and MCI-Norfolk were taken off the count sheets. The segregation units are considered support beds and are not shown on the daily count sheet as design capacity. This resulted in the elimination of 91 beds (60 at Cedar Junction and 31 at Norfolk) from the previous quarterly reports.
- ❖ In previous quarterly reports, the population figures for PPREP were included with the Park Drive population. The PPREP population is reported independently starting with the first quarter of 1995.
- ❖ The population figures for all facilities include both male and female inmates except as shown at Lancaster.
- ❖ State inmates housed in the Hampshire county contract program are included in the county population tables as are all other state inmates housed in county facilities.
- ❖ Longwood Treatment Center is a specialized DOC facility for individuals incarcerated for O.U.I. Because the inmates are primarily county sentenced inmates, the inmate count and bed capacity are also included in Tables 3 and 4.
- ❖ Pondville Correctional Center is a minimum/pre-release security facility formerly known as Norfolk Pre-Release Center.
- ❖ The Massachusetts Boot Camp opened on August 17, 1992, and is located at the Bridgewater Correctional complex in Bridgewater, Massachusetts. Prior to 1993, the Boot Camp was listed as a DOC minimum security facility. In August, 1995, 128 beds were designated for security level 4 (state inmates) and 128 beds for county inmates. In October, 1995, these beds were added to security level 4 design capacity, and 128 beds were added to House of Correction tables.
- ❖ Norfolk County includes Braintree, Dedham, and Norfolk Contract. Middlesex County includes both Billerica and Cambridge. Berkshire County includes the pre-release facility. Essex County includes Middleton, and Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center. Bristol County includes Dartmouth, Eastern Mass. Alternative Center and Pre-Release.
- ❖ Nashua Street inmates housed at other facilities are reported in the counts for the facilities in which they are in custody.
- ❖ During June, 1993, Plymouth House of Correction added 833 beds increasing its total to 1,140 beds.
- ❖ On April 18, 1995, new security level changes were established according to 103 DOC 101 Correctional Institutions/Custody Levels policy which states:

Custody Levels:

- **Level One.** The least restrictive in the department and is reserved only for those inmates who are at the end of their sentence and have been identified as posing little to no threat to the community. Supervision is minimal and indirect.
- **Level Two.** A custody level in which both design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of restoring to the inmate maximum responsibility and control of their own behavior and actions prior to their release. Direct supervision of these inmates is not required, but intermittent observation may be appropriate under certain conditions. Inmates within this level may be permitted to access the community unescorted to participate in programming to include, but not limited to, work release, educational release, etc.

Custody Levels (cont'd.)

- **Level Three.** A custody level in which both the design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of returning to the inmate a greater sense of personal responsibility and autonomy while still providing for supervision and monitoring of behavior and activity. Inmates within this security level are not considered a serious risk to the safety of staff, inmates or to the public. Program participation is mandated and geared toward their potential reintegration into the community. Access to the community is limited and under constant direct staff supervision.

- **Level Four.** A custody level in which both the design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of restoring to the inmate some degree of responsibility and control of their own behavior and actions, while still insuring the safety of staff and inmates. Design/construction is generally characterized by high security parameters and limited use of internal physical barriers. Inmates at this level have demonstrated the ability to abide by rules and regulations and require intermittent supervision. However, behavior in the community, i.e., criminal sentence and/or the presence of serious outstanding legal matters indicate the need for some control and for segregation from the community. Job and program opportunities exist for all inmates within the perimeter of the facility.

- **Level Five.** A custody level in which design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the need to provide maximum external and internal control and supervision of inmates. Inmates accorded to this status may present an escape risk or pose a threat to other inmates, staff, or the orderly running of the institution, however, at a lesser degree than those at level 6. Supervision remains constant and direct. Through an inmate's willingness to comply with institutional rules and regulations, increased job and program opportunities exist.

- **Level Six.** A custody level in which both design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the need to provide maximum external and internal control and supervision of inmates primarily through the use of high security parameters and extensive use of internal physical barriers and check points. Inmates accorded this status present serious escape risks or pose serious threats to themselves, to other inmates, to staff, or the orderly running of the institution. Supervision of inmates is direct and constant. Inmates are confined to their cells at all times, except when they are removed for authorized activities. Inmates within their status, when removed from their cell, are typically under escort and in restraints.

Abbreviations

AC	- Addiction Center	OCCC	- Old Colony Correctional Center
ADP	- Average Daily Population	OUI	- Operating Under the Influence
ATU	- Awaiting Trial Unit	PPREP	- Pre-Parole Residential Environmental Phase Program
CRS	- Contract Residential Services Includes Charlotte House, and Houston House	PRC	- Pre-Release Center
DDU	- Departmental Disciplinary Unit	SECC	- Southeastern Correctional Center
DOC	- Department of Correction	SDPTC	- Sexually Dangerous Person Treatment Center
DSU	- Departmental Segregation Unit	SMCC	- South Middlesex Correctional Center (formerly SMPRC)
HOC	- House of Correction	SH	- State Hospital
NECC	- Northeastern Correctional Center	TC	- Treatment Center (Longwood)
NCCI	- North Central Correctional Institution at Gardner		

Table 1 provides the DOC figures for the third quarter of 1996. As this table indicates, the DOC population (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, and Longwood TC) increased by 118 inmates, or 1 percent, during the third quarter. At the end of the quarter, the DOC operated with 9,815 inmates in the system, and the average daily population was 9,750 with a design capacity of 6,565. Thus, the DOC operated at 149 percent of design capacity.

**Population in Department of Correction Facilities
July 1, 1996 to September 30, 1996**

Custody Level/ Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Custody Level 6					
Cedar Junction	800	814	791	633	126%
Framingham - ATU	114	105	145	64	178%
Custody Level 5					
OSCC	721	739	721	488	148%
Custody Level 4					
Concord	1,156	1,117	1,159	514	225%
Framingham	500	492	494	388	129%
Norfolk	1,337	1,335	1,336	988	135%
Bay State	295	295	295	266	111%
NCCI	1,018	1,010	1,018	568	179%
SECC	845	845	844	456	185%
Shirley-Medium	1,103	1,106	1,111	720	153%
Mass. Boot Camp	125	128	123	128	98%
Sub-Total	8,014	7,986	8,037	5,213	154%
Custody Level 3					
Plymouth	188	171	181	151	125%
NECC	246	243	267	150	164%
SECC-Minimum	106	107	105	100	106%
Shirley-Lower	345	349	357	403	86%
Custody Level 3/2					
Lancaster-Male	204	200	203	94	217%
Lancaster-Female	71	72	74	59	120%
Pondville	194	198	201	100	194%
SMCC	185	156	197	125	148%
Sub-Total	1,539	1,496	1,585	1,182	130%
Custody Level 2					
Boston State	94	100	93	55	171%
Park Drive	44	49	41	50	88%
Hodder House	27	28	33	35	77%
Custody Level 1					
Charlotte	8	8	9	15	53%
Houston House	10	10	9	15	67%
PREPP	14	20	8	n.a.	n.a.
Sub-Total	197	215	193	170	116%
Total	9,750	9,697	9,815	6,565	149%
Bridgewater SH	336	312	345	227	148%
Bridgewater TC	249	248	248	216	115%
Bridgewater AC	125	134	139	214	58%
Longwood TC	143	131	153	125	114%
Sub-Total	853	825	885	782	109%
Grand Total	10,603	10,522	10,700	7,347	144%
Houses of Correction	841	832	744	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	30	30	30	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Contract	331	334	330	n.a.	n.a.

Table 2 provides the DOC figures for the previous twelve months - i.e., for the period July 1, 1995 to June 28, 1996. These figures indicate that the DOC population decreased by 49, less than 1 percent, over this twelve month period (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, and Longwood TC), from 9,775 in July, 1995 to 9,726 in June, 1996.

**Population in Department of Correction Facilities
July 1, 1995 to June 28, 1996**

Custody Level/ Facility	Average Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Custody Level 6					
Cedar Junction	791	711	819	633	125%
Framingham - ATU	100	112	103	64	156%
Custody Level 5					
OCCC	720	743	734	488	148%
Custody Level 4					
Concord	1,124	1,453	1,113	514	219%
Framingham	470	442	491	388	121%
Norfolk	1,325	1,331	1,332	988	134%
Bay State	293	296	295	266	110%
NCCI	1,009	1,012	1,018	568	178%
SECC	863	775	854	456	189%
Shirley-Medium	1,086	1,094	1,109	720	151%
* Mass. Boot Camp	97	0	120	128	76%
Sub-Total	7,878	7,969	7,988	5,213	151%
Custody Level 3					
Plymouth	180	184	185	151	119%
NECC	274	252	228	150	183%
SECC-Minimum	141	150	127	100	141%
Custody Level 3/2					
Lancaster-Male	195	183	208	94	207%
Lancaster-Female	65	79	71	59	110%
Pondville	191	197	200	100	191%
Shirley-Lower	350	368	348	403	87%
SMCC	178	167	155	125	142%
Sub-Total	1,574	1,580	1,522	1,182	133%
Custody Level 2					
Boston State	98	98	99	55	178%
Park Drive	47	50	50	50	94%
Hodder House	25	29	29	35	71%
Custody Level 1					
Charlotte	10	15	8	15	67%
Houston House	8	9	10	15	53%
* PREPP	20	25	20	n.a.	n.a.
Sub-Total	208	226	216	170	122%
Total	9,660	9,775	9,726	6,565	147%
Bridgewater SH	332	327	313	227	146%
Bridgewater TC	216	208	249	216	100%
Bridgewater AC	150	150	127	214	70%
Longwood TC	140	140	133	125	112%
Sub-Total	838	825	822	782	107%
Grand Total	10,498	10,600	10,548	7,347	143%
Houses of Correction	824	927	837	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	30	30	30	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Contract	243	80	334	n.a.	n.a.

(* = See Technical Notes)

Table 3 presents the county figures for the third quarter of 1996. The county population increased by 444 inmates during this quarter. At the end of the quarter, the county system operated with 12,033 inmates, and the average daily population was 11,764 in facilities with a total design capacity of 8,113. Thus, the county system operated at 145 percent of design capacity.

**Population in County Correctional Facilities,
July 1, 1995 to September 30, 1996**

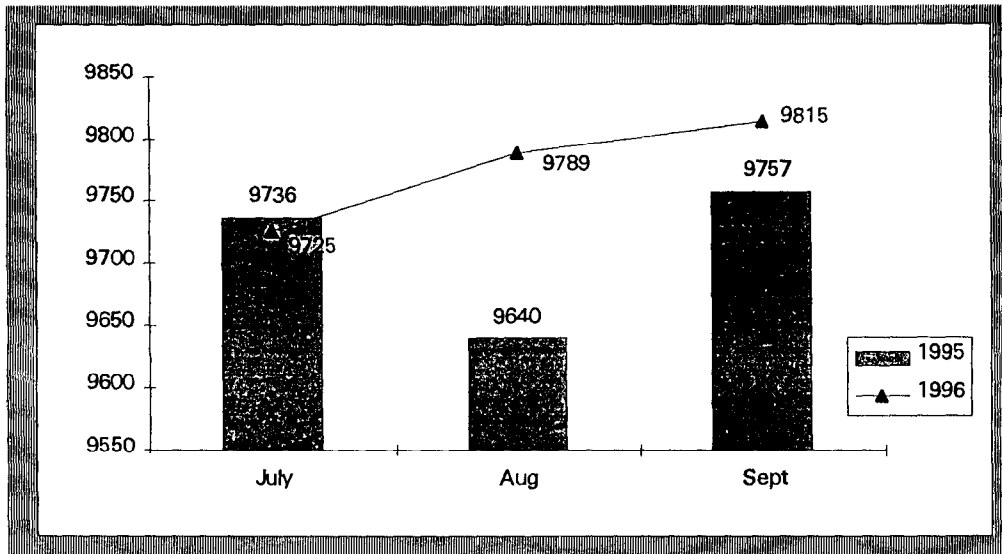
Facility	Average Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	273	259	276	110	248%
Berkshire	250	235	270	116	216%
Bristol	1,147	1,131	1,154	666	172%
Dukes	24	19	27	19	126%
Essex	1,344	1,351	1,340	635	212%
Franklin	121	129	131	63	192%
Hampden	1,495	1,477	1,508	1,178	127%
Hampden-OUI	130	131	128	125	104%
Hampshire	264	255	260	248	106%
Middlesex	1,280	1,263	1,313	792	162%
Norfolk	571	553	579	379	151%
Plymouth	1,108	1,175	1,136	1,140	97%
Suffolk-Nashua St	583	596	593	453	129%
Suffolk-So. Bay	1,723	1,583	1,826	1,146	150%
Worcester	1,233	1,201	1,250	790	156%
Longwood TC	143	131	153	125	114%
Mass. Boot Camp	75	100	80	128	59%
Total	11,764	11,589	12,033	8,113	145%

Table 4 presents the county figures for the previous twelve months. These figures indicate that the county population increased by 744 inmates or 7 percent over this twelve-month period, from 10,711 in July 1995, to 11,455 in June, 1996.

**Population in County Correctional Facilities,
July 1, 1995 to June 28, 1996**

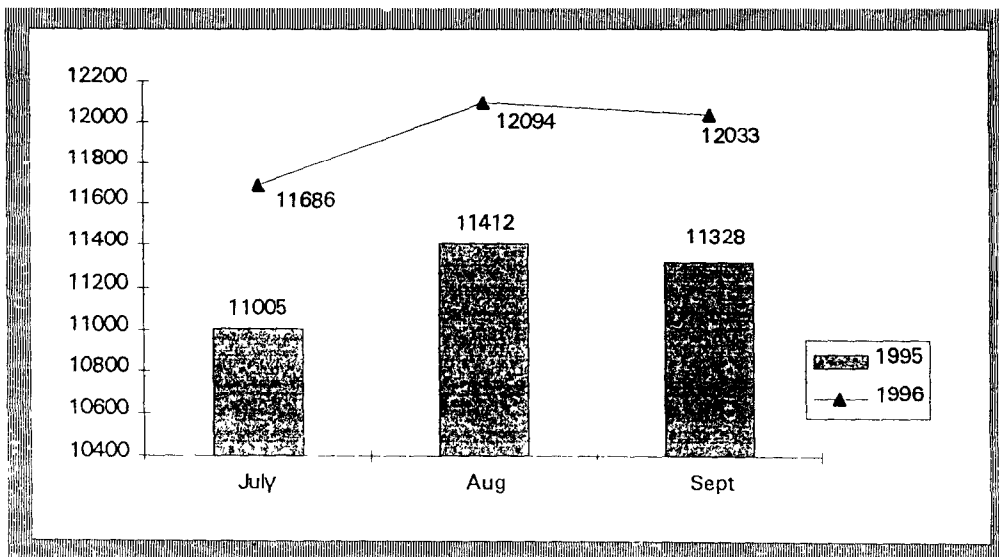
Facility	Average Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	275	285	264	110	250%
Berkshire	233	220	237	116	201%
Bristol	1,080	1,052	1,139	666	162%
Dukes	22	25	20	19	116%
Essex	1,081	984	1,104	635	170%
Franklin	131	142	127	63	208%
Hampden	1,458	1,411	1,470	1,178	124%
Hampden-OUI	130	127	135	125	104%
Hampshire	252	244	254	248	102%
Middlesex	1,264	1,307	1,268	792	160%
Norfolk	557	549	556	379	147%
Plymouth	1,122	1,055	1,170	1,140	98%
Suffolk-Nashua St	570	547	546	453	126%
Suffolk-So. Bay	1,514	1,458	1,591	1,146	132%
Worcester	1,161	1,057	1,219	790	147%
Longwood TC	140	140	133	125	112%
Mass. Boot Camp	115	108	222	128	90%
Total	11,105	10,711	11,455	8,113	137%

Figure 1.
DOC Sentenced Population, Third Quarter of 1995 and 1996



The graph above compares the DOC sentenced population in 1995 to that in 1996. In July, 1996 the DOC population decreased by 11 inmates (.1%) from the same month in 1995; in August, the population increased by 149 (2%); and in September, an increase of 58 or 1 percent.

Figure 2.
HOC Population, Third Quarter of 1995 and 1996



The graph above compares the HOC population in 1995 to that in 1996. In the third quarter of 1996, the HOC population increased by 6% each month from the same period in 1995.

Note: Data for Figures 1 and 2 were taken from the end of the month count sheets compiled by the Classification Division

Table 5 provides statistics on court commitments to the DOC in 1995 and 1996 by gender. Overall, there has been a decrease of 508, or minus 18 percent, in commitments for 1996 in comparison with the number of commitments in 1995, from 2,847 to 2,339. Male commitments for the third quarter of 1996 increased by 6, or 1 percent when compared to the 1995 figure. Commitments to Framingham (females) during the third quarter decreased by 111, or minus 28 percent compared to the number of commitments during the same period of 1995.

Court Commitments to the DOC by Gender			
	1995	1996	Difference
MALES			
First Quarter	636	528	-17%
Second Quarter	577	512	-11%
Third Quarter	455	461	1%
Sub-total	1668	1501	-10%
FEMALES			
First Quarter	367	260	-29%
Second Quarter	411	288	-30%
Third Quarter	401	290	-28%
Sub-total	1179	838	-29%
Total	2847	2339	-18%

Figure 3 provides a graphical representation of the number of court commitments to the DOC for males and females during the third quarter of 1995 and the third quarter of 1996.

